



CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a complete list of claims. The claims below replace all prior versions of the claims in the application. Please amend claims 1, 8, 10 and 11, and add claims 17 – 20. Claims 12 – 16 have been withdrawn.

1. (Currently Amended) A housing for a computer system, the housing comprising:
 - an inside operable to contain processing circuitry; and
 - a storage compartment external to the inside of the housing and including:
 - a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior, and a passage operable to allow an item disposed within the interior to be communicatively coupled to another item outside the interior; and
 - a lid.
2. (Original) The housing of claim 1 wherein the interior is sized to retain a PDA.
3. (Original) The housing of claim 1 wherein the interior is sized to hold storage media.
4. (Original) The housing of claim 1 wherein the sidewall includes the passage.
5. (Original) The housing of claim 1 wherein the storage compartment includes a coupling element operable to couple the lid to the sidewall.
6. (Original) The housing of claim 1 wherein the storage compartment includes a locking element operable to retain the lid in a closed position.
7. (Original) The housing of claim 1 wherein:
 - the housing further comprises a conduit having an opening; and
 - the passage opens to the conduit's opening.
8. (Currently Amended) A housing for a computer system, the housing comprising:
 - an inside operable to contain processing circuitry; and

a storage compartment external to the inside of the housing and including:

a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior, and

a lid having an opening operable to allow access to an item disposed within the interior.

9. (Original) The housing of claim 8 wherein the interior is sized to retain a camera docking station, and when a camera is coupled to the docking station, the camera protrudes through the opening.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

processing circuitry;

a housing having an inside containing the processing circuitry and a storage compartment to retain an item, the storage compartment being external to the inside of the housing and including:

a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior, and a passage operable to allow an item disposed within the interior to be communicatively coupled to another item outside the interior; and

a lid.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

processing circuitry;

a housing having an inside containing the processing circuitry and a storage compartment to retain an item, the storage compartment being external to the inside of the housing and including:

a body having an interior, a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior, and

a lid having an opening operable to allow an item disposed within the interior to protrude through the opening.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for storing an item, the method comprising:

placing an item in an interior of a storage compartment that includes a lid and a body having a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior;
extending a cable from the exterior of the storage compartment through a passage in the body; and
coupling the cable to the item in the interior.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 wherein extending a cable from the exterior of the storage compartment includes extending the cable through an opening of a conduit.
14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 further comprising closing the lid.
15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
closing the lid, and
supporting another item on the lid.
16. (Withdrawn) A method for storing an item, the method comprising:
placing an item in an interior of a storage compartment that includes a lid having an opening, and a body having a bottom and a sidewall that define the interior;
inserting another item through the opening; and
coupling the items together.
17. (New) The housing of claim 1 wherein the storage compartment is located above the housing's inside.
18. (New) The housing of claim 8 wherein the storage compartment is located above the housing's inside.
19. (New) The housing of claim 10 wherein the storage compartment is located above the housing's inside.
20. (New) The housing of claim 11 wherein the storage compartment is located above the housing's inside.